

St. Martin's Vestry Candidates for the Class of 2028



Elaine Bachmann: Elaine and her family joined St. Martin's in 2003, after being greeted in the narthex by former parishioners, the O'Boyle's, and immediately feeling welcomed. Raised Catholic, Elaine was confirmed into the Episcopal Church by Bishop Sutton. She and her husband Austin brought up two sons in St. Martin's, Max and Gus, who both benefited greatly from Sunday School, J2A, pilgrimages to Scotland and Greece, and from being 'known' and supported by a church family who watched them grow from toddlers into men. Elaine's most joyful moments in St. Martin's were listening to her sons sing together as part of the children's choir. Elaine has served in a variety of ministries over the years, and is currently a Lector, a Chalcist, and a Fossier. Privileged to lead the

Profile Committee that resulted in Rev. Lauren's installation at St. Martin's, Elaine looks forward to serving in the Vestry under her leadership.



Tim George: I have been a member of St. Martin's for nearly 10 years and have served on Vestry once before. I am a Rite-13 Sunday school teacher, usher and have participated in three trips to Appalachia with the Appalachian Service Project (ASP) where we work with our youth to make homes warmer, safer and drier. I also was a member of the Rector search committee.

Professionally, I have a background in planning and have worked in city management for eight years and before that was a strategic planning consultant. For fun I enjoy playing golf, working on household projects, baking bread and spending time with my family and our two dogs.



Linda Heiss: Originally from Germany, Linda, moved to the United States at the age of 12 and has since lived in the DMV area. Married to Derek Heiss since 2009, Linda is the proud mother to Lena and Philip. Raised in the Protestant faith in Germany, Linda was received into the Episcopal Church in 2024 and has been an active member of St. Martin's Parish since the spring of 2022. She helped to establish the church's bread ministry, which involves guiding children in baking the Lent and Advent Eucharist bread. Linda is passionate about deepening her connection with the St. Martin's community and looks forward to expanding her role within the parish. A classically French-trained chef, she loves spending much of her time in the kitchen. Linda also enjoys time outdoors, traveling, and spending time with her family.

Her desire to foster meaningful relationships and grow spiritually continues to inspire her as she becomes more involved in the church's many initiatives.



Kevin O'Connell: I am a retired international lawyer; 40 years varied experience in the UK, EU, Middle East and China. My 'second career' for the last ten years, is as a published author of three works of historical fiction, a 'saga' set in Eighteenth Europe; the fourth volume is currently in process.

When in 2018, following some time of personal reflection, I arrived at St. Martin's I was immediately and sincerely welcomed—Rev. Matthew eased my transition from one part of the Catholic tradition to the other—the only such decision I have ever made. I knew that spiritually I was indeed 'home'.

I was honored when Rev. Lauren spoke to me about the role of Chancellor—familiar with this Anglican tradition I feel that my professional experience in counseling and problem-solving in complex business matters might well assist and serve the Vestry in its 'board of directors' role at St. Martin's.

Personally, I am married to Laurette Hankins, along with Bonnie, a golden retriever we live at Cape Arthur. There are five O'Connell children and ten grandchildren.



John Theune: My wife, Amy, our family, and I have been attending St Martins in the Field for about 25 years. We were invited by a neighbor to attend a Sunday service and after that day we knew we had found our church home. This is my second tour on the vestry. I host the summer BBQs on Wednesday evening and the annual Super Bowl party. We have both been involved in the winter shelter program and Amy taught Sunday school for a number of years. I went down to Gros Morne in Haiti on our last mission trip there with Father Pierre Henri. I look forward to working with the other members of the vestry as we work on making St Martins a welcoming place for all to come together.